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Institute of Health and Society, Centre for Medical Ethics

Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Medical Ethics in an ERC-funded project

Job description

A 2-year full-time Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in the ethics of summary measures of population health to be based at the Centre for Medical Ethics (CME), University of Oslo.

The position forms part of the European Research Council-funded Starting Grant project "Ethics of Mortality Measurement" (ETHME), which will consist of Principal Investigator [Carl Tollef Solberg](#), two postdoctoral research fellows, two associated doctoral candidates, and a research coordinator. In addition, five internationally leading researchers constitute the advisory board of ETHME. ETHME is a theoretical project that investigates the theoretical and normative grounds for measuring deaths and evaluating their disvalue in summary measures of population health, such as the disability-adjusted life year (DALY). The project seeks to develop an "ethics of mortality measurement" that involves deliberation on choices and rationales behind the scope, construction, and applications of mortality measurements. ETHME consists of three work packages: WP1 - Understanding the nature of harm in death, WP2 - Building theoretically robust summary measures and WP3 - Evaluating procreation in future individuals.

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow's tasks will be to research in WP2, on the theoretical robustness of summary measures of population health, such as disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) or quality-adjusted life years (QALYs). Specifically, the candidate will focus on the theoretical and applied aspects concerning summary measures of population health, such as the relationship between death at the individual level and death at the population level, the modeling of lost life years due to premature death, the modeling of stillbirths, the commensurability of morbidity and mortality in summary measures, and policy relevance of different types of mortality measures. The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will participate in ETHME's research group based at a leading research centre on medical ethics.

More about the position

The appointment is available as a full-time (100%) for 2 years or a part-time (50%) position for 4 years, depending on the successful candidate's preference.

Please note that this is a full-time research position without any additional teaching or administrative duties.

The successful candidate is expected to be based at the Centre for Medical Ethics (CME) and contribute to its research environment. The fellowship's primary purpose is to qualify researchers for work in higher academic positions within their disciplines.

The suggested starting date is September 1st, 2024.

Qualification requirements

- Ph.D. in a relevant subject (such as medicine, philosophy, medical ethics, and health economics). Doctoral theses must be submitted for evaluation by the closing date. Appointment is dependent on the public defence of the doctoral thesis being approved.
- Fluent oral and written communication skills in English.
- Knowledge of summary measures of population is an advantage
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to conduct original and interdisciplinary research

The following aspects will be emphasized in the assessment of the applicants:

- The quality of the applicant's research, their ability to contribute to the project, and the fit between their research and the ETHME project
- The applicant's personal suitability, collaborative skills, and motivation for participating in an interdisciplinary research group

We offer

- Salary NOK 575 400-657 300 per annum, depending on qualifications in position as Postdoctoral Research Fellow (position code 1352)
- A stimulating working environment at a leading center of medical ethics
- Attractive welfare benefits and a generous pension agreement, in addition to Oslo's family-friendly environment with its rich opportunities for culture and outdoor activities

How to apply

The application must include

- Cover letter with a statement of personal motivation for the position, and a short summary of qualifying experiences and research interest, and reflections upon potential contributions to ETHME (max. 2 A4-pages)
- CV (summarizing educational achievements, positions, teaching experiences, other qualifying activities, and a complete list of publications)
- Submission of up to five publications
- Copies of academic transcripts from Bachelor's and Master's degrees, and PhD. Applicants with education from a foreign university must attach an explanation of their university's grading system.
- Letters of recommendation
- List of 2-3 references (specifying their relation to candidate, e-mail, and phone number)

The application with attachments must be delivered to our electronic recruiting system. Foreign applicants are advised to attach an explanation of their university's grading system. Please note that all documents should be in English or a Scandinavian language.

When evaluating the application, emphasis will be given to the motivation letter and the applicant's academic and personal prerequisites for carrying out and completing a research project within the specified time frame.

Short-listed candidates will be called in for interviews and references will be asked for.

Formal regulations

Please see the [guidelines and regulations](#) for appointments to Postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Oslo.

No one can be appointed for more than one Postdoctoral Fellow period at the University of Oslo.

According to the Norwegian Freedom of Information Act (Offentleglova) information about the applicant may be included in the public applicant list, also in cases where the applicant has requested non-disclosure.

The University of Oslo has an agreement with all employees, aiming to secure rights to research results, etc.

The University of Oslo aims to achieve a balanced gender composition in the workforce and to recruit people with ethnic minority backgrounds.

Contact information

For questions regarding the content, please contact Associate Professor Carl Tollef Solberg, e-mail: c.t.solberg@medisin.uio.no

For questions regarding administrative issues, the recruitment system, and the process, please contact HR Adviser Helle Fritzsonn, e-mail: helle.fritzsonn@medisin.uio.no

About the University of Oslo

The University of Oslo is Norway's oldest and highest ranked educational and research institution, with 28 000 students and 7000 employees. With its broad range of academic disciplines and internationally recognised research communities, UiO is an important contributor to society.

The Institute of Health and Society is one of three institutes at the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Oslo. The Institute covers various disciplines and consists of six departments: General Practice, Health Sciences, Health Management and Health Economics, Medical Ethics, Community Medicine and Global Health and Public Health Science.

The Institute of Health and Society bases its work on a complex understanding of disease, health and health systems. Culture, environment, economics, society and biology play direct and indirect roles. Our teaching responsibilities include seven Master's programs, one Bachelor program and part of the Faculty's medical school and PhD-program. We employ about 220 FTE and have almost 700 Bachelor and Master students. Annual income is about 200 mill NOK, half of which is external funding. Our researchers play an active part of public policy and disseminate new knowledge through many channels.

Tilleggsinformasjon

Arbeidssted:

Boks 1072 Blindern 0316 Oslo (Oslo Kommune)